THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The Central Govt. fixes Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane which is linked to recovery of sugar, taking into account all the relevant factors such as the cost of production of sugarcane, the return to the grower from alternative crops & the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities, the availability of sugar to the consumer at a fair price, the prices at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by producers of sugar and the recovery of sugar from sugarcane; and after consulting such other bodies and Associations including State Govts. as may be necessary for the purpose. Besides this, 50% of the excess realisation of the sale of free sale quota of sugar is also receivable by farmers. Ministry of Food have informed that there is no proposal to set up "Sugar Pricing Board". However they had convened a Conference of Sugar Ministers of all sugar producing States/UTs on 5.2.94. In that Conference, a Committee of Sugar Ministers of five State Govts. viz. Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka was constituted to recommend the pricing Policy of 'Sugarcane'. The Committee submitted its Report on 3.4.95. Another Conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States/ UTs. Was convened on 6.5.95 to consider the recommendations of that Committee. Though majority of the States/UTs supported the formation of National Pricing Board for 'Sugarcane', there was difference of opinion about its terms of reference. The Govt. decided to seek detailed views/suggestions from the State/UTs in this regard.

भोपाल में भोज आर्द्र भूमि परियोजना

1653. **श्री चिम्मनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे:

(क) भोपाल में भोज आर्द्र भूमि परियोजना जिसके लिए जापान से वित्तीय सेवाभार प्राप्त हुई है, की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है;

(ख) इस परियोजना के क्रियान्वयन पर कितनी राशि खर्च होने की संभावना है;

(ग) राज्य और केन्द्र सरकार की वित्तीय सहायता में कितने प्रतिशत की भागीदारी है तथा जापान से कितनी सहायता प्राप्त हुई है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार ऐसी ही योजनाएं विदिशा और नरसिंहगढ़ में भी शुरू करने का विचार रखती है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन जय नारायण प्रसाद निषाद): (क) भोज आर्द्र भूमि परियोजना, भोपाल अप्रैल, 1995 से शुरू की गई है। परियोजना पर अक्टूबर, 1996 तक 869.69 लाख रुपये खर्च किए जा चुके हैं। विभिन्न उप स्कीमों के लिए विस्तृत परियोजना रिपोर्ट तैयार की गई हैं। कार्य प्रगति पर है।

(ख) और (ग) परियोजना की अनुमानित लागत 231.51 करोड़ रुपये है। इसमें जापान के ओवरसीज इक्नामिक कारपोरेशन फंड से 705 बिलियन येन (वर्तमान मूल्य 210 करोड़ रुपये) की ऋण सहायता उपलब्ध है। शेष व्यय मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा किया जाएगा।

(घ) जी, नहीं। इन शहरों में ऐसी स्कीम के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Steps for ameliorating the condition of rural women

1654. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to stress on the concerns of rural women;

(b) if so, whether concrete steps have been taken to improve the lot of rural women and to conduct any National and State level study to prepare a detailed report thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government is making continuous efforts to improve the lot of rural women. Schemes for poverty eradication like Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women, Indira Mahila Yojana, Mahila Samriddhi Yojana, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment are being implemented with rural women as a major target group. Schemes for housing and shelter, educational infrastructure, health care system, support services like child care

facilities, schemes for provision of drinking water and sanitation, conservation of the environment and social security schemes to take care of specially disadvantaged rural women are all geared to improve the lot of rural women. Research, Planning, monitoring and evaluation studies to facilitate the efforts made by the Government are continuously taken up both within the Government and outside.

[**The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER correcting answer to Question—Correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1996 to Starred Question 45, regarding cleanliness and beautifi-cation of Railway Stations

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): Madam, in reply to parts (c) to (f) of the Starred Question No. 45 put by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra in Rajya Sabha on 22.11.96 regarding cleanliness and beautification of Railway stations, the following information was furnished:

(c) 102 stations.

(d) The experience gained has been useful.

(e) and (f) With the objective of better beautification and improving maintenance and increasing revenue from commercial advertisements, Zonal Railways had entered into contract at certain important stations under beautification-cum-maintenance in lieu of sole advertisement rights. The station working continues to be with the Railway administration and the contractor is given only the sole rights for displaying commercial advertisements and responsibility of beautification/maintenance as per the terms and conditions laid down by the Railway administration. The Railways retain powers to terminate the contract if contractor violates the terms and conditions of the agreement. For the present, no fresh contracts are being awarded. It is regretted that the above information was found to be erroneous. Actually, the infomation may be treated as follows:—

(c) to (d) In the past, cleanliness work of 102 stations had been entrusted to private contractors on an experimental basis. These stations also included a few stations in metropolitan cities, for which Railways had entered into a contract with private parties, with the objective of beautification and improving maintenance and increasing revenue from commercial advertisements under the beautification-cum-maintenance scheme in lieu of sole advertisement rights. As the beautification-cum-maintenance scheme has not proved to be very successful, it has been decided to discontinue the scheme.

The existing contracts for cleanliness at other stations will also not be renewed in future and no fresh contract will be awarded.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): साहब, मेरी इल्तिजा सुनिए तो सही। ... (**व्यवधान**)

†اینتا ورودھی دل شری سکندر بخت:
میری سنئے! التجا سنئے تو سہی...
...مداخلت...†

उपसभापति: पहले जवाब पूरा कर लेने दीजिए। ... (**व्यवधान**)

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ: (e) and (f) Railway propose to undertake cleanliness of stations departmentally. For this, various steps like filling up of vacancies of safaiwalas, introduction of "Pay and Use" scheme, use of modern equipments, etc., will be undertaken.

उपसभापति: सिकन्दर बख्त साहब, गाड़ी जब एक दफा स्टेशन से छूट जाती है तो चेन खींचने पर मुश्किल से रुकती है। ... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मैडम, सवाल यह है कि इन्होंने अपने किसी जवाब को अगर कोरैक्ट किया है तो उस जवाब की नकल सवाल करने वाले को भी प्रोवाइड करनी चाहिए ताकि वह सप्लीमेंटरी पूछ सके। ... (**व्यवधान**)

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†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic script.